Mashville Anion.

For Freedom and Nationality:

S.40, MERCER, Editor.

FRIDAY MORNING, NOV. 14 1862

Interview with the President of the Virginia Secession Convention.

Our readers will find in to-day's paper, an interesting letter from a correspondent of the New York Times, giving an account of an interview with Jons Janney, Esq., who presided over the State Convention which voted Virginia out of the Union. There are several points in the remarks attributed to this gentleman to which we desire to call attention.

He affirms that the sentiments of three fourths of that Convention were opposed to disunion, and they voted for it at last, under the excitement produced by the attack on Fort Sumter, which was the act of the South Carolina rebels, instigated by RHETT, YANGEY, BEAUREGARD and JEFF. DAVIS. He even admits that there is reason to believe the attack was "purposely timed to affect the deliberations" of the Virginia Convention and other similar bodies. This admission places the Conventions in a most unenviable light, and makes them out, not patriotic, deliberative bodies, but mere excited and frenzied mobs, whose voice is entitled to no respect whatever.

Mr. JANNEY complains that no encouragement was given them at Washington, seeming to imply that the present administration is alone responsible for the failure to effect an amicable adjustment of matters. But we have the testimony in no good. of Governor Johnson, then in the U.S. Senate, of Hon. EMERSON ETHERIDGE, Hon. W. B. STOKES, and Hon. HORACE MAYNARD, that the leading Congressmen from the Cotton States, such as IVERSON, Toomes, Wigfall, Davis and others, used every artifice in their power to prewent an adjustment, short of the establishment of a Southern Confederacy. This is a great fact in the history of the rebellion, which cannot be kept too distinetly before the people of Tennessec. If they choose to persist in the rebellion, they virtually avow their willingness to wear the collar of vassalage and abject servitude to the selfish and overweening aristocrats of the cotton States-the most discordant interests of the Border States, with whom Tennessee is identified by her productions and material interestsand of the Gulf States, will render their separation in a very few years inevitable. The question then arises, whether a sensible man can consent to spend so much blood and treasure to establish a Government whose term of existence must be as brief as that of JONAH's gourd, and whose little life must soon be drowned in the blood of another rebellion, more brutal and barbarous than the present one? Will not a long line of revolutions, bathed in the blood of countless thousands, stretch out, like the phantom procession of Banquo's offspring, "to the crack of doom?"

But the last declaration of Mr. Janney is, perhaps, more important to us than all the previous ones, for it is a confes-Bion of his utter loss of confidence in the capacity of the people for self-government! That this feeling is widely prevalent among leading secessionists is but too true. Mr. Toomss made a similar avowal in the Georgia Convention. This damning infidelity to the holy cause of democracy-to the gospel of progressive republicanism,-of man's right and power to rule himself-a gospel which came down to us from heaven, and is second only to that other gospel which pertains to man's immortal life hereafter-is deeply rooted in the hearts of the leading secessionists of this State. The HARRISES, FOOTES and HENRYS; the faro-dealers and slave-traders, who once flourished in Memphis and Nashville, and now are leaders of guerrilla bands-the heartless aristocrats of Nashville, whose tongues drop poison near with the handest fine I

"Outsenoms all the worm s of Nile"-

these men all believe, with Mr. JANNEY, that democracy is a delusion, an idle dream; that "the experiment of republican constitutional Government, of liberty regulated by law is a failure!"

What do the people think of this declaration? General ALCORN, of Mississippi, declared at a large social gathering last winter, in Southern Kentucky,

potism." And how shall this Cotton monarchy be arranged? We suppose the cluding paragraph of the appended synop-Monarch will come from South Carolina; sis of the report of the Military Commisthe critton planters of Mississippi and sion, appointed to inquire into the cause Georgia will furnish the Dukes; Alabama of the loss of Harper's Ferry: the Earls, and the other Gulf States the Report on the Surrender of Harper's Counts and Barons, while Virginia will be kept as a wet-nurse to breed negroes; as military districts, from which conscripts will be drafted for service in the armies of His Sublime Highness, King RHETT, or King KEITT, of the celestial State of South Carolina!

Our remarks, yesterday morning, in refegence to holding an election for members of Cougress, in this State, appear to have been strangely misconstrued by exonorates the latter from blame, and some persons, as if we meant to oppose says the idea I have tried to convey was the resumption of the usual functions and privileges of the State. The misapprehension was a strange one for any one who had been a reader of the Union to fall into, since we have again and but a few days ago, urged the importance of the return of Tennessee to her loyalty. and the resumption of all her political from Sept. 12 till the surrender, but did functions. We ardently desire to see her citizens in the full exercise of all their franchises. We see but one obstacle in the way, and that is a physical one-the presence of Confederate troops. It is the same obstacle which prevents the return home of thousands of Union refuheld, consistently with the interests of on Maryland Heights that evening for the Republic, we are for an election. To attempt to hold an election at a time when a loyal citizen cannot ride ten ate the Heights, but with instructions to miles from Nashville, without falling in- spike his guns if compelled to abandon to the hands of of guerrillas, would result them. About two o'clock Colonel Ford

Bulwer on Slavery.

Many Secessionists are weak enough to believe that England is modifying her opposition to African slavery. The reverse is the fact. Before the Cotton States revolted the British papers declared that it was the Federal Union, and their connection with the free States, which gave respectability to slavery .-They compared the alliance to a marriage between a beggar and a Prince. The celebrated author, Sir EDWARD BULWER, a strong partisan of the rebels, in a recent speech, remarked:

the Union will be restored, and no farsighted tion was nearly exhausted, and they inform me, that he had been all along an miserable slavery which we can imagine politician can suppose that the curse of slavery concurring in his discretion to surren-Mr. Janney also acknowledges that the discordant interests of the Border States, is the most ostensible, though it is neither the The commission acquit Gen. White, anly nor perhaps the most powerful cause.

The London Times which daily teems with eulogies of the rebels and abuse of the Union, said a few months since that the abolition of salvery in the District of Columbia, would form the brightest page in American slavery. Once let the slave States stand forth alone, and the peculiar institution will be the target for continual volleys of reprimand, invective, denunciations, and sneers from every nation on the globe. Pirates, and highwaymen would be their only friends.

Our friends will please reflect that we cannot publish communications from Col. Miles in command. three to four columns long. Indeed it is very seldom that we can admit one two columns long. Our space will not admit of it. The public have the right to demand that we shall not give several columns to an article which might easily be the enemy from Maryland, marched on an gled on. They sent delegates to Washreduced to less than one column. If we inserted half the long articles we receive, we would have no room for either news the commission fully concur. or editorials.

The American people are awaiting with intense, and patriotic interest the movements of our new commanders. They call to them in earnest tones: "Push on the columns!" We feel assured they will not be disappointed, for our Generals have already given an earnest of their fidelity and energy in the field

Rebel Movements.

information has been received here that General CHEATHAM's division is at Tullahoma. A portion of Bragg's forces are moving their sick from that place to

A contemporary says that a certain General will be immortal. We believe the Egyptians expressed immortality by the figure of a cypher.

By an arrangement entered into beween Generals Grant and Price, Iuka is ner appeared before me. Major Turner to remain neutral ground for hospital says, "As I remember the conversation ginians. "that he and his friends were convinced purposes. Neither of the belligerents is was: I asked the question why we did that republican government was gone, able the citizens in and around the burg? Major Key's reply was: 'That of Mr. Janney of how he, and conservaand that the South would have a limited town to aid the medical authorities in was not the game; that we should tire tive-minded men like him, had been monarchy, and the North a military des- their attendance on the sick and wounded the robels out and ourselves; that that used by the South Carolina fire-enters.

Ferry!

and Kentucky, Tennessee and Missouri General McClellan and Colonel Miles Censured!

> NEW YORK, Nov. 9 .- A long letter from General Halleck to Secretary Stanton in reference to the want of supplies, &c., for the army shows that nearly all the requisitions had been answered by the Quartermaster's Department, but delays in transportation prevented their arrival to the army depots.

A despatch from McClellan to Meigs that certain portions of the command were without clothes, and the army could not leave till supplied.

NEW YORK, Nov. 10 .- The Tribune prints the report of the Harper's Ferry military commission and gives the following syagain, for months back, and certainly nopsis of facts elicited, editorially. The material-facts are as follows:

Col. Miles was in command at Harper's Ferry. General White was present not assume command. Colonel Ford took command of Maryland Heights, September 5th. General McClellan left Washington for Rockville, Sept. 7th, most of his forces having preceded him. The enemy attacked Maryland Heights on the morning of Sept. 13th.

The 126th New York broke and fled disgracefully, and the breastwork on the gees. So soon as an election can be Heights was lost. Colonel Miles was some hours, consulting with Colonel Ford. He left between 11 and 12 o'clock, without directly ordering Colonel Ford to evacuabandoned the Heights.

The enemy did not occupy them, and the next day Colonel Massy sent over four companies, who brought away four guns and a wagon load of ammunition. After the evacuation of Maryland Heights, Colonel Miles sent word to Mc-Clellan, then at Frederick City, that un-less reinforced he could not hold out 48

McClellan thereupon despatched a messenger to Gen. Franklin, who was engaged with the enemy at Crampton's Gap, that he was wholly unable to give the needed assistance or to give it in time. McClellan appears to have made no other effort to relieve the place. The enemy attacked Harper's Ferry on the morning of the 15th, and at 8 A. M. the surrender was agreed on, Col. Miles representing to the Brigade Commanders, No dispassionate bystander can believe that whom he consulted, that his ammuni-

> disqualifies him for command. Col. Heights, the key of the position, and the evidence stated in the report concerning his course with the rebels is such as to raise the strongest suspicions of treachery. Also Gen. Wool is gravely censured for placing so incapable an officer as

> Concerning McClellan, the evidence adduced in the report, and the opinion expressed by the commission, are most direct and damaging.

The General-in-Chief testifies that Gen-

We republish, in connection with this startling statement, an account of the recent dismissal of Major KRY, from the United States army:

EXECUTIVE MANSON, WASHINGTON, Sept. 26, 1362.5 Major John J. Key-Sir: I am informed that in answer to the question, "Why was not the rebel army bagged immediately after the battle of Sharps- the day arrived Mr. Lincoln bound burg?" propounded to you by Major answered "That is not the game. The object is that neither army shall get much advaniage of the other; that both shall be kept in the field till they are exhausted, when we will make a compromise and save slavery." I are said to be at Knoxville. The rebels shall be very happy if you will within twenty-four hours from the receipt of make the answer stated. Yours, A. LINCOLN.

Endorsed as follows: Copy delivered to Major Key at 10:25 A. M. September 27, 1862. JOHN HAY.

At about eleven o'clock, A. M., September 27, 1862, Major Key and Major Tur-

ination Major Turner says he has frequently heard Major Key converse in regard to the present trouble, and never heard him utter a sentiment unfavorable never uttered anything which he, Major Turner, would call disloyalty. The particular conversation detailed was a private one.

A. LINCOLN. (Endorsed on the above:)

In my view, it is inadmissible for any gentleman holding a military commission from the United States, to utter such sentiments as Major Key is within proved to have done. Therefore, let Major John J. Key be forthwith dismissed from the military service of the United States. A. LINCOLN.

At the interview of Major Key and Major Turner with the President, Major Key did not attempt to controver the statement of Major Turner; but simply insisted, and sought to prove, that he was true to the Union. The substance of the President's reply was that if there was a "game" even among Union men to have our army not take an advantage of the enemy when it could, it was his object to break up that game. Break up all such infamous games, Mr.

President, and the nation will back you. A Talk with John Janney, President

of the Virginia Convention-The Attitude of an Old Virginian. [Correspondence New York Times.]

LEESBURG, VA., Nov. 1, 1862.

Nothing and nobody in all Leesburg interested me but one white-haired old Virginia gentleman, of whom history will have a word to say. I mean John Janney, the President of the Virginia Convention at Richmond that voted the State out of the Union, and whose home is in this town. In the Convention he constantly and persistently voted against every measure looking in any way whatever toward secession, though, as its President, he had to affix his name to a document which he considered the death warrant and suicide of the State. Knowing that when he afterward returned home, and the time for the popular vote came, he voted for secession, I was curious to know what influences had worked this fairness and freedom; as for Mr. Mason's interior change in a high and pure souled

Calling at his residence, I was received with cordiality by the tall, spare figure with a noble white chevelure, whose every lineament and the high, courtly, old-time manners, plainly showed the fine old Virginia gentleman. Mr. Janney is now about sixty-five, and has been of late months in feeble health. It was not difficult, presently to carry the conversation from present affairs and give it a historical turn. It did not need his avowal to Old Line Henry Clay Whig, and that he had long kept himself aloof from practi- despot. The experiment of Republican cal politics; it was easy to see that, such | constitutional Government - of liberty Col. Dilltassy, and Col. Trimble of all as they have been North and South, they regulated by law-I consider a failure blame for the surrender, and praise the must have offended his honest temper. It There is not a shadow of constitutional capacity of the former. They find that was a little remarkable, therefore, that he Col. Ford was given by Col. Miles dis- should have been chosen the presiding ofcretionary power to abandon Maryland ficer of the Convention on the question of Heights, but that the exercise of this secession, and the choice of so conservadiscretion was premature. That he con- tive, Union-loving a man, showed there ducted the defense with no ability, and was some moderation and virtue in that this exhibition of lack of capacity the body. The Convention met you will remember in the middle of Feb-Miles is convicted of ineapacity and ruary '61; and he laid great stress criminal neglect, especially in neglect- on the thoroughly Union sentiment that ing to fortify and hold Maryland pervaded it during its earlier sessions. If a vote on the question had been taken any time during the month preceding the attack on Fort Sumter, three-fourths, at least, of all the voices would have been against the ordinance. When that event took place, the secession mercury on the instant leaped up in the barometer. "Was the attack purposely timed to effect the deliberations of the body ?-was the fuse cut at the right length to carry the shell where wanted?" "There is too much reason to fear it was." The Union party eral McClellan, after riceiving orders to drive in the Convention, however, still strugavarage only six miles a day in pursuit, and ington-begging, imploring some assurthat in his opinion he both could and should ing word, some basis of hope, some pro-have relieved Harper's Ferry, In this opinion mise which they could present to their mise which they could present to their people. "And Mr. S., I am bound to tell you we got discouragement rather than encouragement." Unable thus to get any rallying point, the Union party was overslaughed by the disunionists, and the secession was voted by a large majority, Mr. Janney, with some others, holding out to the last. The Convention dissolved, the members went home, the popular vote, without whose ratification the action of the body was "voice, and nothing more," was about to come on; but before Virginia with the blockade, and invaded Levi C. Turner, Judge Advocate &c., you her soil by marching troops into Alexandria. When the time for the popular vote came John Janney gave his voice for secession. The invasion, State Rights and the old time traditions had done their work. "Sir, I am, in a word, a Virginian -a citizen of a Commonwea th that had existed as a sovereign organized Governthis, prove to me by Maj. Turner that you ment for two hundred years before the did not, either literally or in substance, United States had a name." Such, in a sentence, in the hostory of the lapse of thousands of the best and purest men of Virginia-men who are now the mainstay of the rebellion in the council and in the field. And certainly there could have been no condition of mind more favorable to the purposes of the plotters of disunion than they found in the prin-

I thought, however, that I could de-

ciples, prejudices and traditions of Vir-

We call particular attention to the con- was the only way the Union could be I felt delicate at pressing him on these preserved, we come together fraternally, tender points, but the rebellion has oband slavery be saved." On cross exam- viously in his mind not a clean birth record. The secession of South Carolina and the Gulf Sates he regards as a gigantic crime, unprovoked, uncalled taining cotton and tobacco from the plan-for, unauthorized, illegal and diabolical ters for the Javys Government to the maintenance of the Union. He has Next to this he accounts the acceptance by the Washington Government of the attack on Fort Sumter as a challenge to war, followed by the calling out of 75,000 men, as a grand political blunder. He exceriates Mr. Buchanan-whom he looks upon as the weakest and meanest of all the tools ever used by a tyrannical faction-for not reinforcing Fort Sumter at a time when it could have been done without giving offence; but he also blames Mr. Lincoln for treating as a case for war an affair that statesmanship would have made a diplomatic transaction of. The lack of that statesmanship now is, he thinks, the great trouble; for he considers there is none of it on either side. "Read the Constitution, and you will see that the office of the President is carved out for the limbs of a giant; and who have you there, and who have we?" "Sir, there were in my day, giants in the land, and we have now only pig-

As for the prospects of the Southern

Confederacy he had nothing but dark

prophesies. That secession will stop

with the present split he has not the

faintest idea. There are antagonistic elements already at work that must ere long make new fractures. The radical opposition of interests on the tariff question will make a Virginia and Border State Confederacy, or attempt at Confederacy, before half a generation is past. asked him whether, if the Confederate forces should be driven out of Virginia, and a new popular vote ordered, there would be a chance of the reseinding of the Ordinance of Secession and the re- fully meager. No one has any confidence turn of the State to the Union. "None, none whatever. The wrongs, oppressions and violence of the Washington Government have been too great, the alienation of the people too intense, ever to make that possible." I asked him about the circumstances attending the popular vote, and whether, from the local terrorism, it could be considered a fair one; and I recalled to his mind Mr. Mason's declaration at the time, that if there was any man in Virginia not prepared to vote secession be should leave the State. So far as he knew, it was made with perfect speech it was not the first or only foolish thing that person had said: "But do you suppose that any Virginian voted against his conscience on account of such a declaration? Do you not think that we should be to gether-that Union is desirable? "Why it is written on the very face of the geography," (illustrating it by examples.)
"And if it were but all over, and things were as they used to be! But there is no hope; both parties will go on until each is utterly exhausted and ruined, and is ready to welcome peace and protection brought by any iron handed military Government on either side." The President's Emancipation Proclamation he looks upon as the greatest political blunder possible, and he is curious to know what extraordinary pressure must have been brought to bear on him to issue it, after his declaration to the Chicago delegates. It will solidify, unite, and intensify all the hostilities, hatreds, and animosities of the South. "But do these sentiments amount to much in the long run?" "It is true that in the long run, every people is governed by its conviction of its own interests." "But, difficult though re-union may at present seem, is not everything more easy than dissolution?" "I confess I see nothing between Union and chaos; but how is it to be done? One thing I know; if my vision of how it can be settled were as clear as my desire is intense that it should be

General Burnside.

settled, the war would speedily be at an

end."

The Louisville Journal makes the following remark in reference to General BURNSIDE. We believe we do not err in

ascribing them to the Senior editor. The despatches from the Potomac indicate that Gen. Burnside, even in the first hours after his assumption of the command of the army of the Potomac, entered upon the vigorous discharge of the high and solemnly responsible duties of his new position. He has ever been remarkable for his rapid movements, and his appointment to succeed McClellan no doubt indicates to him that he is expected to put forth great energy, and he is evidently ready and willing to accept and obey the indication. He is pushing on at all points as fast as possible, and Gen, Hooker, his second in command, will assuredly not fail to second him and be fully abreast of him in energy of action. The two are alike fighting men. They will march over whatever obstacles interpose between them and a fight or a series of fights. If HIGHEST PRICE PAID they do not find facilities for attacking the enemy, they will create facilities or attack without them. Still we trust that they combine strong, sound judgment with impetuosity.

At a ball lately given in Seville by the King and Queen of Spain, it is stated that the ladies were diamonds worth at least

At the Surrey theatre, London, a novcity has been introduced in the form of a king-glass curtain, measuring one thousand square feet.

Professor DeBow, editor of the notorious Review, and agent of the Confederate Produce Loan office, does not appear to have had very brilliant success in obters for the JEFF. DAVIS Government. The following paragraph, from the Richmond Enquirer, gives the result of his canvassing:

COTTON AND TOBACCO HOUGHT BY COVERN-MENT.

The message of the President in response to a resolution of the Senate inquiring "what quantity of tobacco and cotton has been obtained in exchange for bonds and stock under the provision of the act of 21st October, 1862, and where said cotton and tobacco were purchased, as d what prices were paid for, and what disposition had been made of the same,' and transmitting a communication on the subject from "A. Roane, per cierk in charge of Produce Loan office," was tak-

Mr. Roane stated "that no reports have yet been received from the agents appointed to purchase cotton for the Government under the act of April 21, except one from J. D. B. DeBow, Esq., reporting the purchase of 2,492 bales at prices varying from six to twelve and a half cents per pound. The cotton was all purchased in Mississippi, and is stored in warehouses on the plantations where it was bought. Mr. DeBow reports, however, in a letter that he has contracted

for 10,000 bales at about the same rates. We will venture the guess that not a planter has subscribed to the loan, except through fear that the torch would be applied to his crop. But even with this stimulous, the amount subscribed is pitiin the solvency of the rebel Government. How different is the credit of the Federal Government, whose notes are purchased eagerly even in Richmond.

Men Advertisements.

THEATES.

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From the Tribune, Aug. 2. "LLOYD'S MAP OF VIRGINIA, MARYLAND, and PENNSYLVANIA.—The Map is very large; its coat is but 25 cents, and it is the best which was be pur-chased."

LLOYD'S GREAT MAP OF THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER—From Actual Surveys by Capts. Bars and Wm. Bowen, Mississippi River Pilots, of St. Lonis, Mo., shows every man a plantation and owner's name from St. Louis to the Guif of Mexico—1,350 miles—every sand-bar, island, town, landing, and all places 20 miles back from the river—colored in Counties and States. Prins, \$1 in sheets; \$2, in pocket form; and \$2.50 on lines, with rollers. Ready Sept. 20.

NAVY DEPARTMENT, WARRINGTON, Sept. 17, 1802.

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